

REMARKS

Claims in the Application.

Claims 1-7 and 16-19 have been canceled. Claims 8-15 are pending in the present application. Claims 8-15 have been allowed. Applicants respectfully submit that the active claims of this application are in a condition for Allowance and Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

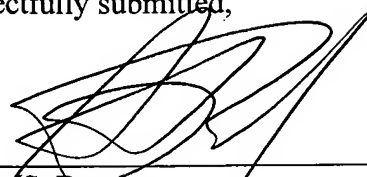
Canceled Claims 1-7 and 16-19.

Canceled Claims 1-7 and 16-19 will be the subject of a continuation application to be filed during the pendency of this application.

CONCLUSION

For the stated reasons, reconsideration is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge or credit the Deposit Account No. 12-1322 of Locke Liddell & Sapp LLP under Order No. 020569-02100. In light of the foregoing remarks, the claims of the application have been distinguished over the cited references. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (713) 226-1218 should he deem it necessary to advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Boyd', is written over a horizontal line.

Steven S. Boyd

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